

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1-13. (Cancelled)

14. (Currently Amended) A method of operating a wireless network, comprising:
detecting at least one signal of an external radio source, by a network device of said wireless network, ~~during normal operation of said~~ while data is transmitted over the wireless network~~[[,]] wherein, while detecting, and~~ said network device does not send data to another network device of said wireless network; and
changing a communication channel or frequency band, if said at least one signal overlaps with a currently used communication channel or frequency band.

15. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 14, wherein said step of detecting is performed by at least one further network device of said wireless network, and said further network device does not send data to another network device of said wireless network.

16. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 14, wherein said step of detecting is performed during a non-transmission period of a MAC frame.

17. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 14, further comprising:
setting a transmitting power level of said network device such that a receiving power level at said another network device lies between a first threshold and a second threshold.

18. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 17, wherein in the step of setting the transmitting power level, said first threshold is set to comply with a sensitivity specified according to a standard of the wireless network.

19. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 17 or 18, wherein in the step of setting the transmitting power level, said second threshold represents a detection level of radar signals, radar signals having a higher signal level than said detection level are detectable with a first detection rate, and radar signals having a lower signal level than said detection level are detectable with a second detection rate, said first detection rate being higher than said second detection rate.

20. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 14, wherein, upon detection of said at least one signal of said external radio source, said network device sends a first message to a central controlling network device of said wireless network, said first message indicating that said at least one signal has been detected.

21. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 20, wherein, when said central controlling network device has received said first message, said central controlling network device sends an acknowledge message to said network device.

22. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage medium having embedded therein instructions that cause a computer to execute a method of operating a ~~network device~~ of a wireless network, comprising:

detecting at least one signal of an external radio source, by a network device of said wireless network, ~~during normal operation of said~~ while data is transmitted over the wireless

network[[,]] ~~wherein, while detecting, and~~ said network device does not send data to another network device of said wireless network; and

changing a communication channel or frequency band, if said at least one signal overlaps with a currently used communication channel or frequency band.

23. (Currently Amended) A network device of a wireless network, comprising:

an RF unit adapted configured to receive a radar signal of an external radio source, and to send/receive a data signal of said wireless network;

a radar detector ~~adapted configured~~ to detect a presence of said radar signal, ~~during normal operation of said~~ while data is transmitted over the wireless network[[,]] ~~while and~~ said RF unit does not send the data signal to another network device of said wireless network;

and

a micro processor ~~adapted configured~~ to change a communication channel or frequency band of said RF unit, if said radar signal overlaps with a currently used communication channel or frequency band.

24. (New) The method according to claim 18, wherein in the step of setting the transmitting power level, said second threshold represents a detection level of radar signals, radar signals having a higher signal level than said detection level are detectable with a first detection rate, and radar signals having a lower signal level than said detection level are detectable with a second detection rate, said first detection rate being higher than said second detection rate.

25. (New) A method of operating a wireless network, comprising:

detecting at least one signal of an external radio source, by a network device of said wireless network, whenever the network device is not sending data; and changing a communication channel or frequency band, if said at least one signal overlaps with a currently used communication channel or frequency band.

26. (New) A computer-readable storage medium having embedded therein instructions that cause a computer to execute a method of operating a wireless network, comprising:

detecting at least one signal of an external radio source, by a network device of said wireless network, whenever the network device is not sending data; and changing a communication channel or frequency band, if said at least one signal overlaps with a currently used communication channel or frequency band.

27. (New) A network device of a wireless network, comprising:
an RF unit configured to receive a radar signal of an external radio source, and to send/receive a data signal of said wireless network;
a radar detector configured to detect a presence of said radar signal whenever the network device is not sending data; and
a micro processor configured to change a communication channel or frequency band of said RF unit, if said radar signal overlaps with a currently used communication channel or frequency band.

28. (New) A method of operating a wireless network including a plurality of network devices, comprising:

detecting at least one signal of an external radio source by at least one of the plurality of network devices at any given time; and

changing a communication channel or frequency band, if said at least one signal overlaps with a currently used communication channel or frequency band.

29. (New) A computer-readable storage medium having embedded therein instructions that cause a computer to execute a method of operating a wireless network including a plurality of network devices, comprising:

detecting at least one signal of an external radio source by at least one of the plurality of network devices; and

changing a communication channel or frequency band, if said at least one signal overlaps with a currently used communication channel or frequency band.

30. (New) A wireless network, comprising:

a plurality of network devices, each of the plurality of network devices including

an RF unit configured to receive a radar signal of an external radio source, and to send/receive a data signal of said wireless network;

a radar detector configured to detect a presence of said radar signal; and

a micro processor configured to change a communication channel or frequency band of said RF unit, if said radar signal overlaps with a currently used communication channel or frequency band,

wherein at least one of the plurality of network devices is configured to detect the presence of said radar signal at any given time.